

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for communicating in an education environment, comprising:

5 determining a current question from a plurality of questions, the current question having a plurality of possible answers;

receiving from one of a plurality of remote units a message comprising a remote unit identifier and a current response;

10 determining that the current response is valid if the current response corresponds to one of the possible answers for the current question;

15 if the current response is valid, visually indicating to a user of the remote unit that the current response is valid; and

if the current response is not valid, visually indicating to the user of the remote unit that the current response is not valid.

20 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the visually indicating steps are performed using a single display simultaneously viewable by all users of the remote units.

25 3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a command from the remote unit; and
determining a new current question from the questions in response to the command.

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4. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
determining a current question for a second one of
the remote units;

receiving a message comprising a current response
5 and a remote unit identifier for the second remote unit;

determining that the current response of the second
remote unit is valid if it corresponds to one of the
possible answers to the current question.

10 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the message from
the remote unit is communicated as a wireless signal.

6. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
determining that a valid response for each of the
15 questions has been received from the remote unit; and

visually indicating to a user that a valid response
for each of the questions was received.

7. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
20 determining that a valid response for each of the
questions has been received from the remote unit; and

visually indicating to a user that a valid response
for each of the questions was received;

25 comparing the complete set of valid responses to a
set of correct answers to the questions; and

determining a score for the complete set of valid
responses.

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8. The method of Claim 1, wherein visually indicating that the current response is valid comprises:

displaying a first visible indication if the current response matches a previous valid response for the
5 current question;

displaying a second visible indication if the current response does not match the previous valid response; and

displaying a third visible indication if no previous
10 valid response has been received from the remote unit.

9. The method of Claim 8, wherein the first visible indication comprises a first color, the second visible indication comprises a second color, and the
15 third visible indication comprises a third color.

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10. The method of Claim 1, wherein the questions are ordered in a sequence, the current response is a first current response, and the method further comprises:

determining a next question in the sequence, the
5 next question having a plurality of possible answers;

visually indicating the next question to the user of the remote unit;

receiving a second current response to the next question from the remote unit;

10 determining that the second current response is valid if the second current response corresponds to one of the possible answers to the next question; and

if the second current response is valid, visually indicating to the user of the remote unit that the second
15 current response is valid; and

if the second current response is not valid, visually indicating to the user of the remote unit that the second current response is not valid.

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11. A graphical user interface, comprising:

a plurality of sections associated with a plurality of users, each section displaying a remote unit identifier identifying a remote unit operated by one of the users, each section comprising:

a first visible indication operable to be displayed in the section when a current response received from the remote unit corresponding to the section is not a valid response for a current question;

a second visible indication operable to be displayed in the section when the current response received from the remote unit is a valid response and the remote unit has not submitted a previous valid response to the current question;

a third visible indication operable to be displayed in the section when the current response from the remote unit is a valid response that matches a previous valid response; and

a fourth visible indication operable to be displayed when the current response from the remote unit is a valid response different from a previous valid response.

12. The graphical user interface of Claim 11, wherein the graphical user interface appears on a single display simultaneously viewable by all of the users of the remote units.

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13. The graphical user interface of Claim 11,
wherein each section further comprises:

a first portion displaying the remote unit
identifier; and

5 a second portion displaying a question identifier
for the current question.

14. The graphical user interface of Claim 13,
wherein the second portion is further operable to display
10 a new question identifier in response to a command from
the remote unit.

15. The graphical user interface of Claim 13,
wherein each section further comprises a fifth visible
15 indication operable to be displayed in the section when a
valid response to each of a plurality of questions has
been received from the remote unit of the section.

16. The graphical user interface of Claim 11,
20 wherein the first visible indication is a first color,
the second visible indication is a second color, the
third visible indication is a third color, and the fourth
visible indication is a fourth color.

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17. A communication system, comprising:
a plurality of remote units;
a memory operable to store a plurality of possible
answers to a plurality of questions;

5 a base station operable to receive messages from the
remote units, each message comprising a remote unit
identifier and a current response;

a processor operable to determine for each message a
current question using the remote unit identifier, the
10 processor further operable to determine that the current
response is valid if the current response corresponds to
one of the possible answers for the current question; and

a display simultaneously viewable by all users of
the remote units and operable to visually indicate to the
15 users whether their respective current responses are
valid.

18. The communication system of Claim 17, wherein
the base station is operable to receive messages
20 communicated as wireless signals.

19. The communication system of Claim 17, wherein
the base station is operable to receive a first message
from one of the remote units and to reject subsequent
25 messages for a specified duration after the first message
is received.

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20. The communication system of Claim 17, wherein the processor is further operable to change the current question for one of the remote units.

5 21. The communication system of Claim 17, wherein the processor is further operable to determine whether a valid response has been received previously from the remote unit, and the display is further operable to:

10 display a first visible indication if no previous valid response has been received;

 display a second visible indication if the current response matches the previous valid response; and

 display a third visible indication if the current response is different from a previous valid response.

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22. The communication system of Claim 17, wherein the processor is further operable to:

 determine if a valid response to each questions has been received from each of the remote units;

20 compare each valid response to a question to a correct answer for the question; and

 determine a score for each remote unit based on the valid responses submitted by that remote unit.

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